

THE MORNING NEWS

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T.O.B. dominates as Aruba selects its Diamond Jubilee Prins & Pancho



Left to right: Prins der Prinsen winners, Youth and Adult winners



Children winners Prins "Mega" and Pancho "Falta"

ORANJESTAD -- The official start of Aruba's 60th Anniversary Carnival came about this weekend with the Torch Parade on Saturday evening, and the election of key personages during the coming two months, the Prins

& Pancho (Prince & Jester). These flamboyantly dressed, mischievous scamps will rule events and parades, and two weeks prior to the grand finale weekend, Prime Minister Mike Eman will turn over the rule of Aruba to them dur-

ing a beloved ritual.

Prins & Pancho titles are awarded in three categories, Child, Youth and Adult. The title is hard won during a long evening of comedic sketches where the contestants prove their worth in representing Aruba's Carnival with humor and grace. This year, since it is the 12th lustrum, there was also the election of 'Prins der Prinsen' (Prince of Princes), where former winners contended for the coveted title.

Judges admit it was a difficult task to select the new carnival royalty from the fine array of choices offered. Five teams competed for the title of Children Prins & Pancho, but it was Xenon Daal and Bryanden Koolman, from Mundo Infantil Gosando cu Kerekentenchi, performing as Prins "Mega" and Pancho "Falta," who took the crowns.

In the Youth Division, Prins "Kiko" Dion Carolina and Pancho "A Bai Robes" Steven de Cuba, representing the T.O.B. Carnival Group, won the titles. The new Adult Prins & Pancho, also from T.O.B. are Jordano Hilario, Prins "60" and Emon Webb, Pancho "Rebienta."

Continued on pg 4

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US, Russia call for 'local ceasefires' ahead of Syria talks

PARIS (AFP) - Moscow and Washington made a joint call Monday for Syria's regime and rebels to agree to ceasefires in parts of their battle-scarred country ahead of peace talks this month.

But the two countries continued to disagree on Iran's participation in the talks, with US Secretary of State John Kerry saying Tehran needs to accept plans for a transitional government if it wants to take part.

Meeting in Paris with UN-Arab League envoy Lakhdar Brahimi, Kerry and Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov called for the ceasefires to start ahead of the so-called Geneva II talks due to begin in Montreux on January 22.

It was a rare pulling together of two heavyweights in the Syrian crisis, which has seen the US backing the opposition as Moscow sticks by longtime ally President Bashar al-Assad.

"We talked today about the possibility of trying to encourage a ceasefire, maybe a localised ceasefire beginning with Aleppo (in the north of Syria)," Kerry said.

"What can be done before the beginning of the confer-

ence should be done," Lavrov said. "We are going to try to send signals to all the Syrian sides on the need for the establishment of a localised ceasefire."

Washington and Moscow are hoping to build momentum ahead of the talks, which are seeking to revive efforts to hammer out a deal on a transitional government after a nearly three-year conflict that has killed 130,000 people.

Syrian Foreign Minister Walid Mualllem will also visit Moscow on Friday ahead of the talks, the Russian foreign ministry said.

Kerry and Lavrov said they also discussed possible prisoner exchanges and the opening of humanitarian corridors to bring aid to the millions affected by the conflict.

Lavrov said the Assad regime had indicated it was ready to allow access for humanitarian aid, citing the embattled Damascus suburb of East Ghouta, where thousands have been trapped by fighting.

"We expect similar steps from the opposition," Lavrov said.

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Indian Association of Aruba celebrates Diwali



Organizing committee



Recently Aruba's India Association held their Diwali Ball function at Marriott Ballroom. Diwali is celebrated by Indian Community as its New Year. A Cultural Program was held with traditional dresses and food items. Photos depict the beautiful celebration.

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Marriott Vacation Club Aruba Celebrates Top Performing Associates



Fernando Chumpitazi proudly posing with his total of five awards.



Mirna Loeffstop (L.) receiving the Manager of the Year Award from Bettina Gonzalez



Sales Exec Winners Tina Lampe and Nayda Lopez surrounded by MVC Aruba's leadership team

PALM BEACH – Marriott Vacation Club Aruba's Sales and Marketing organization held its year-end celebration and awards ceremony honoring top performing team

members in Palm Beach last December. Associates enjoyed an evening of disco music, dancing, great food and cocktails in honor of the top performing associates for 2013.

The festive event was orchestrated by Natasia Dragt, Human Resources Manager, Noanni Cham, Director of Sales, Theolinda Richardson, Director of Marketing, Ron Moser, Regional Director of Sales, Ligenne Trimon, Mirna Loeffstop, and Bettina Gonzalez, Project Director for Sales and Marketing.

Fernando Chumpitazi received five awards, including Marketing Executive of the Year at Marriott's Aruba Surf Club and the prestigious Marriott Vacation Club, Aruba Award of Excellence.

Eighteen Marketing Executives and Sales Executives also received awards for exceptional business achievements at Marriott's Aruba Surf Club. Marketing Sapphire Awards were earned by Fernando Chumpitazi, Gisela Sa, Theadjen Giel, Jacqueline Marlin, Marry Maduro, Zuraila Wever, Ben Pombo, Darwin Quero, Giancarlo Angela and Keila Alcantara. Marketing Super Sapphire Awards went to Claudia Simmons and Enrique Ochoa. Sales Sapphire Awards were earned by Tina Lampe, Nayda Lopez, Sigifredo Castaño, Francis Groeneveldt, Charmaine York and Tamara Jorge.

Encouraging their talents in the Sales & Marketing Department Enrique Ochoa (Marketing) and Sigifredo Castaño (Sales) won Rookie of the Year for their efforts. Tina Lampe and Nayda Lopez were both elected Sales Executive of the Year 2013. Mariska Winterdaal became Associate of the Year and Mirna Loeffstop earned the title of Manager of the Year.

Marriott's Aruba Surf Club also acknowledged Gary Barnes Sulaika Dubero and Leon Wardenaar who scored highest in

Customer Satisfaction Scores. Charmaine York was recognized for Best Sales Attitude in 2013.

Top performing Marketing Executives of the Year 2013 included Ed Adonis, Keila Alcantara, Claudia Simmons, Darwin Quero, Edwin Maduro and Fernando Chumpitazi.

Along with the 2013 top awards at Marriott's Aruba Surf Club, the Marriott Vacation Club "GOVETS" Awards recognize excellence in Guest service, Owner service, Volume, Expense goals, Teamwork and Self-Development. As a result of the nominations and subsequent elections by fellow colleagues, the "GOVETS" of the year recipients include: Aisha Romano, Francis Groeneveldt, Fernando Chumpitazi, Shirley Ferguson, Ben Pombo, and Margaret Hall.

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Aruba's 60th Carnival

T.O.B. dominates as Aruba selects its Diamond Jubilee Prins & Pancho

Cont. from pg 1



The new prins and pancho are crowned



TOB sweeps the contest



The contest is known for hilarious sketches



Presenting their show

T.O.B. Group rounded out their resounding victory for this landmark carnival by also winning the Prince of Princes contest, with a spirited and entertaining routine by Eduardo Loefstop, Prins "E Cos Ki" and Ivmar "Tyson" Croes, as Pancho "Ta Djaki". It can be expected the mood around the TOB headquarters will be quite jubilant and amusing during Carnival 60.

The Stichting Arubaanse Carnaval, or SAC, the non-profit foundation that organizes and conducts the Prins & Pancho and queen elections, expressed their gratitude to all the contestants for their original and hilarious routines. There were thirteen groups competing for the titles, adding another memorable evening of hilarity to the festival ambiance of carnival.

By Rosalie Klein

Carnaval Schedule



Fri. Jan 17

Children Queen Election of Sta. Cruz

Sat. Jan 18

6:30 p.m.: Aruba's Children and Youth Calypso & Roadmarch Contest 2014 (Aruba Entertainment Center)

Sun. Jan 19

8:00 p.m.: Sign up Happening Caiso & Soca Monarch Contest 2014 (Aruba Entertainment center)



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Construction works on Carnaval Village in full swing for the upcoming Caiso Soca Contest



Recently Minister of Economy, Communication, Energy and Environmental Affairs Ing. Mike de Meza visited the Carnaval Village site in San Nicolas to inspect how the construction works. He was accompanied by staff of N.V. Elmar who is in charge of electricity installation, representatives of the Aruba's music foundation: Fundacion Musica, the contractor in charge of the project and his coordinators. The Minister was very satisfied with the result up until now and said that the project will be very beautiful when finished. The project is now in its first phase and two weeks before the grand event (February 15th) the Musica Foundation must be able to start with their setup for the festival. After the festival, the works on the 1st phase will continue. The 2nd phase will consist of the podium construction, and building of the kiosks. The total cost of this project is between 7 to 8 million.

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ARUBA DOET, BON DOET AND CURA DOET are building up momentum!



ORANJESTAD -- All three Caribbean Islands saw the start of the ARUBA DOET, BON DOET and CURA DOET initiatives late last year. Together with NLdoet, they form the largest volunteer initiative of the Kingdom and are executed under supervision of local organizations in cooperation with the Oranje Fonds.

This year volunteers will have the opportunity in the third week of March to help NGO's finish odd jobs that would otherwise get done. These activities could for example be painting a community centre, cleaning or planting a garden at a care home, organizing an outing for the physically disabled or participating in a beach clean-up. The Oranje Fonds

will support each project financially with a certain amount that can be used for expenses like paint or transportation.

Over 40 fun projects have already been registered by NGO's on the Caribbean Islands, and there could be many more! We are hoping to see the numbers rise to over 250. The deadline to register projects and apply for financial support is 31 January 2014. We have launched special websites where more information can be found about the process and related issues. Please check www.arubadoet.com, www.bondoet.com and www.curadoet.com to register your project now.

From 1 February 2014 individuals, schools, companies and other organizations can register as volunteers through these same websites.

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Bridge Results Aloha Bridge Club

Recently the Aloha Bridge Club Aruba held their bridge games.

The results were the following:

Thursday morning, January 9th 2014.

A total of 14 pairs attended the bridge game at the Members Lounge of the Aruba Beach Club Resort.

The following guest players joined the play: Linda and Bobb Gordon, Fay and Carl Kallina and Gloria Manna.

The results 50% and higher are as follows:

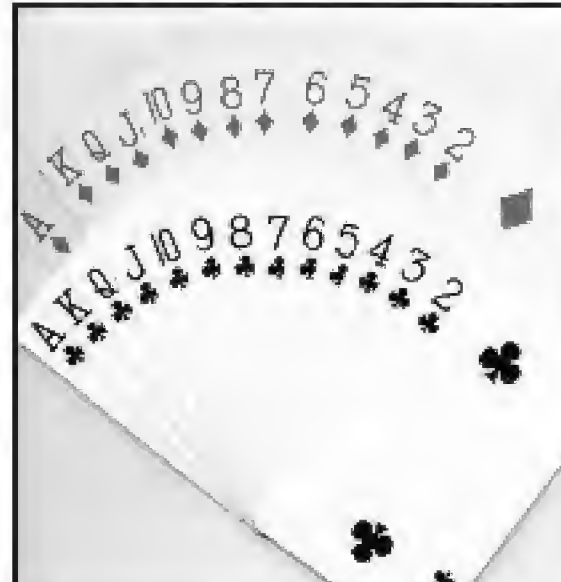
- 1) Stascha Hornix / Jan van der Roest 65.28 %
- 2) Linda and Bobb Gordon 64.24 %
- 3) Fay and Carl Kallina 55.90 %

- 4) Kathlyn Yarzagaray / Gloria Manna 54.36 %
- 5) Maritza van Romondt / Willy Flanegin 53.47 %
- 6) Joke Henriquez / Marleen van Baaren 52.43 %

Friday evening, January 10th 2014.

A total of 10 pairs attended the bridge game at the Frank Conway Room of the Casa del Mar Beach Resort.

The following guest players joined the play: Fay and Carl Kallina, Judy and Joel Handelman, Valery Craane and Helen Goody.



The results 50% and higher are as follows:

- 1) Maylene and Fred Koopman 60.05 %
- 2) Fay and Carl Kallina 57.07 %
- 3) Marion Pijper / Sheila

Lampe 52.19 %

4) Els Lacle / Addy Eilers 50.94 %

Aloha Bridge Club Aruba meets twice a week: on Thursday mornings at the Members Lounge of the Aruba Beach Club Resort, starting at 9.00 am and on Friday evenings at the Frank Conway Room of Casa del Mar, starting at 7.30 pm. Signing up closes ten minutes before starting time.

Fee for guest players \$ 6.00 or Afl. 10.00 per person. The club can also be of assistance in finding single players a bridge partner.

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Obama defends Afghan strategy after Gates comments

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Barack Obama insisted Monday he had faith in the Afghan war mission after former Pentagon chief Robert Gates charged the president lacked passion for military action and soured on his own troop surge.

In his first public comments on explosive criticisms of his role as commander-in-chief in new memoirs by Gates, Obama said that he had a duty to constantly question US military tactics and "sweat the details" when sending young men and women to war.

But the president declined to say whether he had been irked by the publication of the book while he was still in office and American forces remained on the battlefield.

Gates sparked a Washington firestorm when he suggested in "Duty" -- to be published Tuesday -- that Obama became disillusioned with the troop surge strategy launched in 2009 by early 2011, and lost confidence in his troop commanders and

Afghan President Hamid Karzai.

While praising Obama for his integrity and intellectual approach to matters of state, Gates is reported to have written that the president showed less zeal for military engagements than his predecessor George W. Bush.

"One quality I missed in Obama was passion, especially when it came to the two wars," Gates wrote.

Obama, however, said that he "continued to have faith" in the US mission in Afghanistan.

"Most importantly I've had unwavering confidence in our troops and their performance in some of the most difficult situations imaginable," the president said.

"And that job is not yet done."

The frank criticism from Gates, who served both Bush and Obama as defense secretary, was all the more surprising considering he is known in Washington for loyalty and disdaining the often grubby business of politics.

Obamacare signs up 2.2 million, a quarter young adults: study

WASHINGTON (AFP) - About 24 percent of people who signed up online for President Barack Obama's trouble-plagued signature health care plans in 2013 were young adults, the group key to keeping the system balanced, officials said Monday.

That's a number the administration hopes to increase, the Health and Human Services officials added.

Overall, almost 2.2 million people have been able to sign up online despite a very bumpy rollout of Obama's top political legacy, HHS said in a report released Monday.

That figure comes from the start of the enrollment period on October 1 through December 28, 2013. But the report found the vast majority of enrollments -- 1.8 million -- came in December, after a slow start.

The rollout of the website, which should allow every American without health insurance to register for coverage, has been plagued by technical problems. Obama's administration had earlier vowed to improve the site's technical failings.

Health care reform was the centerpiece of Obama's

election campaign in 2008 and was passed in 2010 before being upheld in 2012 by the Supreme Court.

But Obama's popularity has nosedived to an all-time low since implementation of the Affordable Care Act, dubbed "Obamacare," got under way.

Among the people signing up, young adults aged 18-34 -- a key set from the insurers point of view since they are the least likely to be sick, and as such the least costly -- are key to preventing cost overruns. The lower rates for younger people help the program make up costs for other ages, particularly the elderly.

"The trend so far as we released in this report are suggestive of an appropriate mix in the marketplace," said Mike Hash, Director of HHS's Office of Health Reform.

"But again to remind you, we're only halfway through the enrollment period, and we expect an increase in the proportion of young adults as we go forward."

About 79 percent of the 2.2 million received government financial help to pay their insurance premiums, the report found.

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Spain satisfied with US explanation on NSA spying: PM

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy said Monday after meeting with US President Barack Obama that Spain had received a "satisfactory" explanation of reports that American spies bugged European leaders' phones.

Last year, leaked documents from the US National Security Agency revealed that Washington had targeted the communications of some of its closest allies in Europe.

Rajoy told reporters that the Spanish government and the United States had conducted "full consultations" on the issue and Washington's explanations were "satisfactory."

"As long as there are no new developments, I have nothing to add to what I have said about this previously," Rajoy added.

According to leaks from

former US intelligence contractor Edward Snowden, the NSA has listened in on the communications of dozens of foreign leaders.

At the height of the crisis last year Spain summoned

the US ambassador to Madrid following reports that American intelligence had gathered data on 60 million phone calls in Spain, prompting criticism from Rajoy.

US criticizes Nigeria for same-sex marriage ban

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The United States on Monday criticized Nigeria for approving a law that punishes same-sex marriage with prison, saying the move would curtail basic human rights.

Secretary of State John Kerry said the United States was "deeply concerned" by Nigeria's new law which "dangerously restricts freedom of assembly, association and expression for all Nigerians."

Kerry said the act "is inconsistent with Nigeria's international legal obligations and undermines the democratic reforms and human rights protections enshrined in its 1999 constitution."

"People everywhere deserve to live in freedom and equality. No one should face violence or discrimination for who they are or who they love," Kerry said in a statement.

Under the new law, anyone in a same-sex marriage or union would face up to 14 years in prison, with such partnerships reached overseas considered void in Nigeria.

Pressure mounts on Hollande to end First Lady confusion

PARIS (AFP) - So does France's unmarried president now have both a First Lady and a First Mistress?

Francois Hollande came under mounting pressure on Monday to clear up the confusion created by the latest developments in his complicated love life.

The Socialist leader had been hoping to ride out the storm created by last week's revelation of an affair with Julie Gayet, a blonde actress 18 years his junior.

But any hope of that was shattered on Sunday when it emerged that Hollande's companion of several years and de facto First Lady, Valerie Trierweiler, had been hospitalised with stress.

Symptoms variously described in the media as low blood pressure, exhaustion and a "severe case of the blues" developed within hours of glossy magazine Closer publishing details of 59-year-old Hollande's alleged secret trysts with Gayet, 41, in a borrowed apartment close to his official residence, the Elysee Palace.

Trierweiler, who lives with Hollande at the Elysee, will not be checking out from hospital on Monday as initially expected, according to her office.

"Doctors believe she needs more rest," said an aide to Trierweiler.

Meanwhile Hollande's security chief is in hot water for failing to properly check out the 'love nest' the French President allegedly used for his tryst Le Monde reported.

The apartment used by the couple was rented by a friend of Gayet's, another actress named Emmanuelle Hauck.



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Dutch want prisoners to pay for cells

THE HAGUE (AFP) - Prisoners in the Netherlands may soon have to pay for their cell accommodation, if a bill tabled on Monday becomes law.

Deputy Justice Minister Fred Teeven "believes that a convicted prisoner serving jail time will have to pay partly for their incarceration," said ministry spokesman Wiebe Alkema.

"The minister thinks it's only fair that not all the costs should be shouldered by the State and society when you lock somebody up," he told AFP.

Prison time costs the Dutch government around 250 euros (\$341) per day per prisoner, Alkema said.

If passed by the two houses of parliament, convicted prisoners will pay a suggested flat rate of 16 euros per day for a

maximum of two years.

The ruling coalition of Prime Minister Mark Rutte's liberal People's Party for Freedom and Democracy (VVD) and its left-leaning Labour Party (PvdA) partner agreed the bill after winning a 2012 election.

If approved, it will become law on January 1, 2015.

A separate bill that would require prisoners to contribute to the costs of the investigation that led to their conviction is also under consideration.

The two bills would generate 65 million euros a year for the Netherlands' cash-strapped prison system which, according to official statistics, holds some 12,100 inmates.

The Netherlands last year announced it would close down at least 19 prisons as a result of budget cuts, leading to the loss of 2,000 jobs.

Alkema said Teeven's proposed law was "in line with other countries where contributions are made by convicted detainees, either in the cost of their arrest or their stay in prison".

The Offenders' Association (BWO), a Dutch prisoners' rights group, said the plan was against European human rights rules which say that the state must pay for prisoners' detention.

FARC peace talks resume amid criticism of Colombian president

HAVANA (AFP) - Peace talks between the FARC and Colombia's government resumed Monday after a three-week break amid rebel criticism of recent remarks by the Latin American country's leader.

President Juan Manuel Santos claimed in a November 26 speech that the FARC "had realized they were on a road to nowhere" and that pressure from the Colombian army had forced them to the negotiating table.

Marquez is the second in command at the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, which has been in talks with the government since November 2012 in an attempt to end their near 50-year conflict.

Considered Latin America's longest-running insurgency, it has left hundreds of thousands dead and displaced more than 4.5 million.

In his speech to members of the military, Santos had praised Plan Colombia, a \$9 billion US funded anti-narcotics effort launched in 2000 that included a counter-insurgency element.

"Santos himself revealed that this was not a plan against drug trafficking but a counter-insurgency plan conceived to quell social unrest," Marquez said.

He went on to say that recent revelations by the Washington Post about a secret CIA program that helped government forces eliminate rebel leaders - including the 2008 killing of the FARC's then-second in command Raul Reyes in Ecuador -- proved "total American interventionism."

The 2008 incident triggered a diplomatic crisis between Bogota and Quito, with Ecuador suspecting the attack was orchestrated with the help of the United States, despite denial from Colombian authorities.

As usual, the government delegation led by former vice president Humberto de la Calle made no comment at the start of the latest negotiations, held in the Cuban capital Havana. The last round, focused on the coca trade, wrapped up on December 20.

But Santos said Monday he was more optimistic about the peace talks today than a year ago.

He also expressed hope that a deal could be reached "as soon as possible," adding that the Colombian people would have the final say about whether to endorse it.

Founded in 1964, the FARC is considered Colombia's largest rebel group and has 7,000 to 8,000 fighters.

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Obesity declines among rich US teens, rises in poor



WASHINGTON (AFP) - In the past decade, obesity has declined among US teenagers from rich families but has risen among their impoverished counterparts, a gap driven by lack of exercise, said a study.

The research by experts at Harvard University examined what appeared to be an encouraging decline in adolescent obesity and found that only the upper class is benefiting.

"We find that although the overall obesity prevalence has plateaued, the trend looks very different across different sub-groups," said the study in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

Using family income as well as the education level of the parents to analyze two major US surveys, researchers found a growing class gap where obesity was concerned.

Beginning in the mid-2000s, obesity rates declined among children of parents who graduated from college.

Meanwhile, obesity rates rose among children of parents who had only a high school diploma.

Similar trends were seen when researchers separated the data by income level.

However, when it came to probing racial differences, researchers said they did not have enough data to reliably explore interactions between

class and ethnicity.

The obesity rate among those aged 12-17 in the United States nearly doubled from the late 1980s until the mid-2000s, but began leveling off about a decade ago.

Key reasons the poor may be gaining weight are lack of physical activity and excessive food intake, the study said.

According to the study, calorie intake among kids of all income classes has gone down in recent years, but only kids of educated parents have reported getting regular exercise.

Access to healthy foods also remains an obstacle for the poor.

The US Department of Agriculture has reported that 9.7 percent of the US population, or 29.7 million people, live in low-income areas more than a mile from a supermarket.

In those areas, "the only options for grocery shopping are 'convenience' stores, liquor stores, gas stations, or fast food restaurants that sell foods high in fat, sugar, and salt," said the study.

Obesity in young people can cause a host of health concerns, including higher risk of type 2 diabetes, obstructive sleep apnea, high blood pressure and psychological problems, experts said.



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India defeats polio, global eradication efforts advance

NEW DELHI (AFP) - India marked three years since its last reported polio case Monday, meaning it will soon be certified as having defeated the ancient scourge in a huge advance for global eradication efforts.

India's polio programme is one of the country's biggest public health success stories, achieving something once thought impossible thanks to a massive and sustained vaccination programme.

Health Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad, along with global groups who have been working to eradicate the virus, hailed Monday's anniversary as "a monumental milestone".

"We have completed a full three years without a single polio case and I'm sure that in the future there won't be any polio cases," Azad told reporters in the capital.

With the number of cases in decline in Nigeria and Afghanistan, two of only three countries where polio is still endemic, world efforts to consign the crippling virus to history are making steady progress.

"In 2012, there were the fewest numbers of cases in endemic countries as ever before. So far in 2013 (records are still being checked), there were even less," Hamid Jafari, global polio expert at the World Health Organisation, told AFP. "If the current trends of progress continue we could very easily see the end of polio in Afghanistan and Nigeria in 2014."

Despite the success, isolated polio outbreaks in the Horn of Africa and war-ravaged Syria emerged as new causes for concern in 2013.

There are also reasons for caution in India, with the virus still considered endemic in neighbouring Pakistan, where vaccinators are being killed by the Taliban which views them as possible spies.

In India, the wretched sight of crippled street hawkers or beggars on wheeled trolleys will remain, however, as a legacy of the country's time as an epicentre of the disease.

In the absence of official data, most experts agree there are several million survivors left with withered legs or twisted spines who face discrimination and often live on the margins of society.

Spain transplants hit record despite crisis: govt

MADRID (AFP) - Surgeons in Spain transplanted a record number of organs in 2013, the government said Monday, keeping the country world leader in the field despite heavy health spending cuts.

Transplants of all kinds increased in Spain, particularly lung replacements, up nearly 20 percent, and pancreas transplants, up more than 10 percent, the health ministry said.

A record total of 4,279 transplants were carried out in Spain in 2013, of which 2,552 were of kidneys, 1,093 of livers and 285 of lungs, it said.

Spain's government in 2012 cut the annual national health budget by seven billion euros (\$9.6 billion) a year in its efforts to strengthen public fi-

nances, causing waiting lists for non-urgent surgery to lengthen.

But the national transplant system has thrived over the years, with the number of donors increasing from 14 per million people in 1989 to 35 per million in 2011, Matesanz said.

That put Spain far ahead of other countries, with 26 donors per million people in the United States, 25 in France and just under 15 in Germany, according to the transplant body's latest figures from 2011.

Spain is also considered a pioneer in certain complex operations, having carried out some of the first double transplants of arms and legs.

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'American Hustle,' '12 Years a Slave' top Golden Globes



Amy Poehler shined at the 71st Annual Golden Globes Sunday as she had another successful year of hosting and won her first trophy. But the real highlight was when the 42-year-old "Parks and Recreation" star made out with U2's front man Bono.

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - "American Hustle" won big at the Golden Globes Sunday, while harrowing drama "12 Years a Slave" took the coveted best drama prize, fueling buzz ahead of the all-important Oscars.

"Hustle," the stylish crime caper by director David O. Russell, took best musical/comedy film and two acting awards, while the critically-acclaimed "Slave" had to make do with the one big prize.

Hollywood turned out in their red-carpet finest for the 71st annual Golden Globes, Tinseltown's biggest honors fest before the Academy Awards in March -- and a key indicator as to who could be tipped to take home Oscars.

Australian Cate Blanchett won best drama actress for Woody Allen's "Blue Jasmine"

and Matthew McConaughey triumphed for best drama actor in "Dallas Buyers Club."

"The Wolf of Wall Street" star Leonardo DiCaprio and Amy Adams from "Hustle" won the top acting awards in the musical/comedy category.

Best director went to Mexican Alfonso Cuarón for spectacular 3D space drama "Gravity," starring Sandra Bullock and George Clooney as astronauts stranded in orbit after a space station accident.

On the small screen, cult series "Breaking Bad" took the best drama series crown and best drama actor Globe for Bryan Cranston, while best TV movie or mini-series went to Liberace biopic "Behind the Candelabra."

Blanchett paid tribute to Woody Allen, who also received the Cecil B. DeMille award for lifetime achieve-

ment at the Globes -- accepted on his behalf by Diane Keaton.

"People like me are in his slipstream picking up these heavy things that make biceps look great," said Blanchett.

There was a near disaster just hours before the show began, when a sprinkler malfunctioned and soaked a large part of the red carpet outside the Beverly Hilton Hotel, but workers quickly mopped up the mess.

In their opening skit, comedy stars Tina Fey and Amy Poehler, hosting the show for the second year, made fun of Clooney -- who sacrifices himself to save Bullock's life in "Gravity."

"It's the story of how George Clooney would rather float away into space and die than spend one more minute with a woman his own age," said Fey.

The first prize of the night went to "Hunger Games" star Jennifer Lawrence for her supporting role in "American Hustle," inspired by an FBI sting operation in the 1970s known as ABSCAM.

The Oscar-winning 23-year-old said she hopes to do more than act.

"I would love to direct one day, but I don't want to suck. I want to keep learning," Lawrence told reporters backstage.

Adams took best actress for her role in the movie, which also won nominations for Christian Bale and Bradley Cooper.



"12 Years a Slave" won best motion picture, drama.

But Bale was beaten by DiCaprio in the best musical/comedy actor category, won by the "Titanic" star for Martin Scorsese's epic about greed in the world of high finance.

And Cooper was defeated by Jared Leto, who took best supporting actor for his portrayal of a transgender woman suffering from AIDS in "Dallas Buyers Club."

Based on a true story, "Dallas Buyers Club" stars McConaughey as an AIDS sufferer who smuggles drugs for other patients to treat the HIV virus in the early days of the disease in the 1980s.

The night featured some snubs: among those going home empty-handed were "Nebraska" which had five nods, "Captain Phillips" with four, and "Inside Llewyn Davis" and "Phantom" with three each.

Best foreign film went to Italian Paolo Sorrentino's "The Great Beauty," defeating the Cannes-winning "Blue is the

Warmest Color" as well as "The Hunt," "The Past" and "The Wind Rises."

Disney's musical fairy tale adaptation "Frozen" won the Golden Globe for best animated film, beating "The Croods" and "Despicable Me 2."

The Globes are run by the Hollywood Foreign Press Association (HFPA), and voted on by barely 80 journalists -- in contrast to the Oscars, chosen by 6,000 members of the prestigious Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

"American Hustle" and "12 Years a Slave" have had a series of boosts in recent weeks, winning nominations from the Producers Guild of America (PGA) and the Directors Guild of America (DGA).

In the last 10 years, all but one of the winners of the DGA's top prize went on to win the best director Oscar.

Nominations for the Oscars will be announced on Thursday. The Academy Awards will be held on March 2.

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Smartphones replace keys in smart door locks

LAS VEGAS (AFP) - Gabriel Bestard-Ribas got tired of his house keys scratching his smartphone in his pocket, so he combined them.

The result was a Goji lock, which senses when a resident's smartphone is near and not only unlocks a door but greets the resident by name.

It's just one of the trend of "smart locks" on display at the Consumer Electronics Show that ends here Friday.

"My keys were always scratching my phone, so I thought why not build them in," said Bestard-Ribas, founder and chief executive of San Francisco startup Goji.

His creation fuses mobile Internet technology with centuries old lock mechanics. A free Goji application installed in smartphones uses Bluetooth connectivity to let the lock know a person is near and, if it is a resident or someone given a "digital key," a personalized welcome message displays and the path is opened.

A camera built into the lock



takes a picture of whoever is arriving. Images of visitors as well as alerts regarding entry are relayed to residents' smartphones through home wireless Internet connections.

"It is about allowing you to feel confidence and control over your home access," Bestard-Ribas told AFP. "We have all lost keys or given them to someone who left our sight; we don't know if copies were made."

Temporary digital keys, restricting use to specified time periods, can be emailed to house cleaners, dog walkers,

or others who may need to visit homes. The locks were available for order online at gojiaccess.com at a price of \$299 each, and will begin shipping in March.

Veteran lock makers Kwikset and Schlage were also showing off smart locks at CES.

A Kwikset Kevo lock senses when a resident's smartphone is near and then opens when the person touches what appears to be an ordinary deadbolt in a door.

"As long as you have your phone in our pocket, or in your purse, you touch the deadbolt

and in about a second it will lock or unlock," said Phil Dumas, president of UniKey, whose technology was built into Kevo.

"It can even tell what side of the door you are on, so you can be on the inside and a bad guy can touch the door and it won't unlock."

Kevo launched late last year at an array of US retailers with an application tailored for iPhones, and UniKey was waiting for a software update from Google to release one compatible with Android-powered handsets.

Schlage's touch-screen deadbolt let people unlock doors to their homes remotely using their smartphones, and featured built-in alarms that shriek if incorrect codes are entered too many times.

Each of the locks provided ways to offer limited access by granting people temporary keys or codes, and promised records of who entered and when delivered to smartphones.

*Tech gets
in your
head,
literally,
to ease
stress*

LAS VEGAS (AFP) - Yes, technology can get into your head, says the maker of a new brain-sensing headband that promises to reduce stress.

The Muse headband from Canadian-based Interaxon presented at the Consumer Electronics Show uses seven sensors, including five on the forehead and two behind the ears, to monitor brain activity and help people with stress-reducing exercises.

"It's based on neuro feedback," said company communications manager Gena Meldazy.

"The sensors detect and measure changes in your brainwaves." They then transmit this information to a smartphone app, which enables the user to find ways to relax and reduce stress.

It can deliver results in just a few minutes, for example, "very quickly before an important meeting," Meldazy told AFP.

The system uses a series of training exercises designed to calm and focus the mind, helping keep stress under control.

The product is set to be launched in 2015 at a price of \$269, with the company taking preorders at www.getyour-muse.com.

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Canada	CAD	1.77	1.79	1.65
Britain	GBP	2.80	2.85	2.97
Switzerland	CHF	191.71	192.43	198.43
Netherlands	EUR	230.59	232.69	245.63
Sweden	SEK	25.91	26.63	27.95
Denmark	DKK	30.23	30.95	33.15
Norway	NOK	30.67	31.39	29.63
Japan	JPY	214.88	216.84	173.75

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Oil prices drop after interim Iran nuclear deal

NEW YORK (AFP) - Oil prices fell Monday amid over-supply worries after the West clinched a deal with Iran that will see Tehran scale back its disputed nuclear program in exchange for sanctions relief.

New York's main contract West Texas Intermediate (WTI) for February delivery finished the day at \$91.80 a barrel, a loss of 92 cents from Friday's close.

Brent North crude for February fell 50 cents to settle at \$106.75 a barrel in London trade.

The Iran deal, announced Sunday, will take effect from January 20. It gives Iran and the so-called P5+1 -- Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States plus Germany -- six months to come up with a more comprehensive solution to the nuclear dispute.

The Islamic republic's oil exports have been crippled by a series of international sanctions aimed at bringing an end to its nuclear drive, which the West claims is being used to develop atomic weapons. Iran denies the assertion.

"If an agreement to the nuclear dispute were to be found and the sanctions against Iran

were to be lifted completely, up to one million barrels of Iranian oil per day could become available," Commerzbank analysts said in a market note.

In the United States, WTI was weighed down by concerns about a growing glut of oil at the Cushing, Oklahoma hub, said Andy Lipow of Lipow Oil Associates.

Supplies at Cushing, the US benchmark WTI delivery point, have climbed for several weeks and last week rose by a million barrels.

Facebook grabs social network Branch

SAN FRANCISCO (AFP) - Facebook on Monday confirmed that it has grabbed a hold of Branch, a social network that focuses providing online forums for insightful conversations.

Terms of the deal were not released, but some reports estimated the price at \$15 million.

Chief executive Josh Miller wrote that the New York City-based startup's twin social networks, Branch and Potluck, will continue to operate independently but its nine-member team will form a Facebook Conversations group.

The group's goal will be to help Facebook users connect in meaningful exchanges based on interests, according to Miller.

The start-up launched about two years ago with backing from The Obvious Corp., a technology firm incubator formed by Twitter co-founders Biz Stone and Evan Williams.

US Congress won't meet deadline for spending bill vote

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The US Congress was poised Monday to extend by three days a deadline set during the country's autumn budget crisis to avoid another government shutdown.

According to the chamber's Republican leadership, the House of Representatives is due to vote Tuesday on a mini spending bill that will give lawmakers until Saturday to vote on a much larger 2014 measure.

"This very short extension is needed to prevent any funding gaps as the agreement moves through the House and Senate next week," Senator Barbara Mikulski, chairwoman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, said

Friday.

In October, a bitter budget clash between Republicans and Democrats -- who control the House and Senate respectively -- triggered a 16-day government shutdown.

A deal to end the crisis financed the government through this coming Wednesday, January 15.

Last month, Congress passed a compromise two-year budget accord, marking a truce in the fiscal wars that have plagued Washington.

The deal laid out top-line spending limits for 2014 and 2015, while erasing some painful and automatic spending cuts that were due to kick in on January 1.

It also gave lawmakers from

both chambers until Wednesday to craft spending bills under the new limit -- or risk another shutdown.

Delaying the deadline until Saturday buys lawmakers time to finalize their negotiations on the \$1.1 trillion measure and debate it before voting on it.

The text of the so-called omnibus spending bill, totaling several hundred pages, may be released later Monday, a spokeswoman for House Appropriations Committee Chairman Hal Rogers told AFP.

The stakes are high since the measure sets, line-by-line, spending limits for each federal agency until September 30, when the 2014 fiscal year ends.

Software and staff to blame for Amsterdam's €188m benefit error

THE HAGUE - Amsterdam city council has increased the supervision of its local finance office, saying technical failings and human error were to blame for last month's over payment to nearly 10,000 poor households.

Last month it emerged 10,000 households were wrongly paid thousands of euros in extra housing benefit, costing the city €188m. Some people expecting a €155 pay-

ment received €15,500 instead. The highest wrong payment was €34,000.

"This should never have happened," finance alderman Pieter Hilhorst said on Monday. All but €2.4m of the €188m in wrongful payments has now been recovered.

According to research by KPMG, the software used by the city council to regulate the payments -- an extra housing

benefit for the city's poorest households -- is based on cents rather than euros.

No one had spotted the error, which led the system to generate payments of €188m rather than €1.8m. Experts expect up to €1.2m of this will be very difficult to recover. In addition, the city has spent €300,000 trying to rectify the situation, news agency ANP reports.

Google buys 'smart' thermostat maker Nest for \$3.2 bn

SAN FRANCISCO (AFP) - Google on Monday announced that it is buying smart thermostat start-up Nest in a deal valued at \$3.2 billion.

"They're already delivering amazing products you can buy right now -- thermostats that save energy and smoke/CO alarms that can help keep your family safe," Google chief executive Larry Page said in a press release.

"We are excited to bring great experiences to more homes in more countries and fulfill their dreams."

The big-ticket buy continues a move by the California-based Internet titan into consumer electronics hardware, adding smartphone-synched thermostats to its Motorola Mobility smartphones, Nexus mobile devices, and the promise of releasing Google Glass eyewear some time this year.

"Google has the business resources, global scale and platform reach to accelerate Nest

growth across hardware, software and services for the home globally," Nest co-founder and chief executive Tony Fadell.

"And our company visions

are well aligned - we both believe in letting technology do the hard work behind the scenes so people can get on with the things that matter in life."



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YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

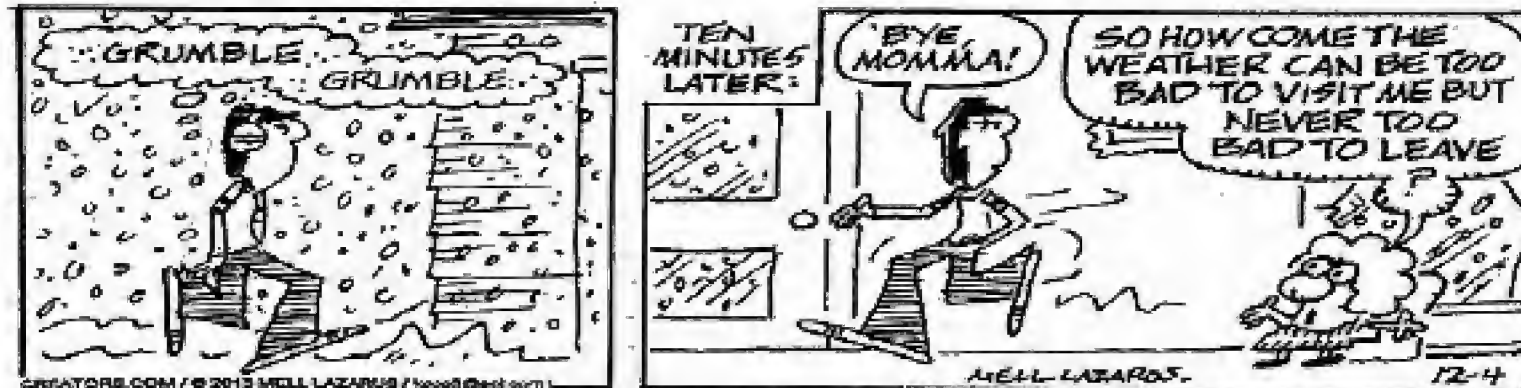
G	P	A		K	A	R	L			
R	U	T	H		U	N	R	E	A	L
E	L	L	E		G	E	T	S	T	O
G	L	O	B	U	L	E		T	I	N
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K	I	D	N	A	P		S	O	O	T
T	S	A	R				N	N	E	

COMICS

PICKLES



MOMMA



CALVIN and HOBBS



CROSSWORD



CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Martinelli et al.
6 "Family ___" (Hitchcock)
10 Went to the plate
12 "___ Precious Love"
13 Chest of drawers
14 Pretense
15 Groom's phrase (2 wds.)
16 Dinner
18 Actress Campbell
20 Take it on the ___
21 Garbo of films
23 Lawful
27 Lend a hand
29 Auto dealer's model
30 Pooh's friend
33 Vinyl records (abbr.)

34 Columnist Barry

- 35 Super-market divisions
37 Manipulator
38 Ten years
39 Jimmy Durante's trademark
40 Begat

DOWN

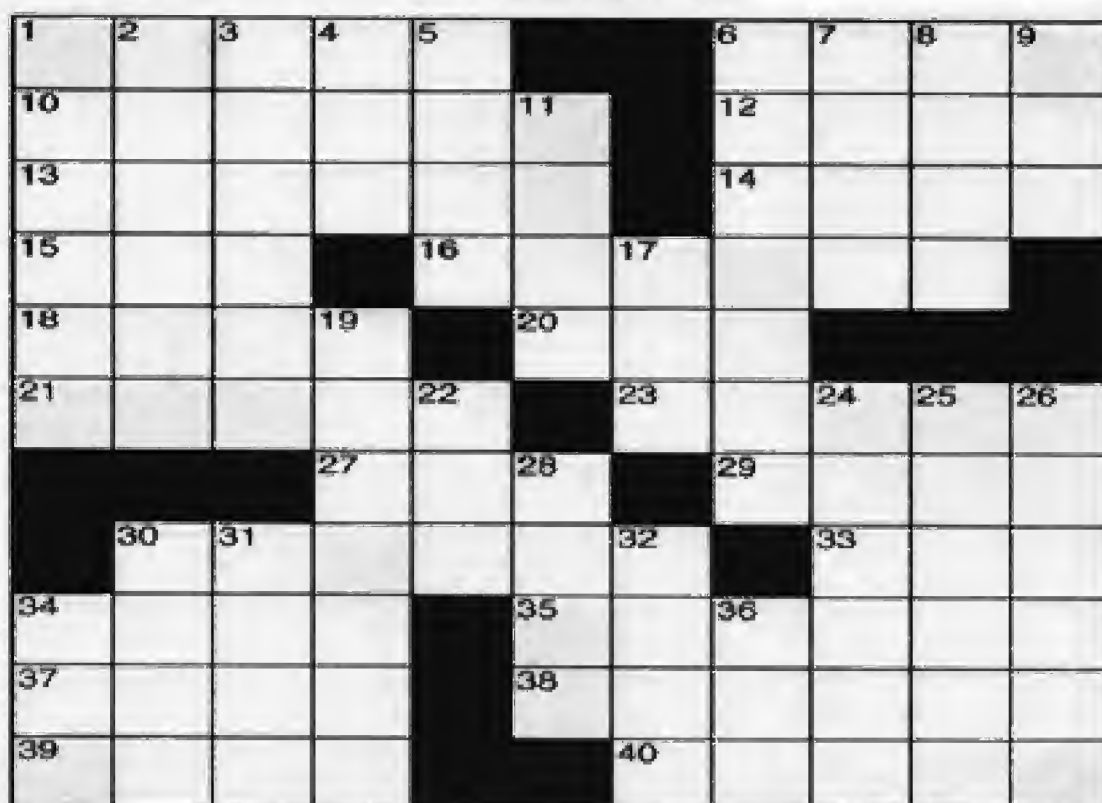
- 1 Waning
2 Praiser
3 Tried very hard

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- 4 Munched on
5 Burn
6 Pharaoh's tomb
7 Actor Gossett et al.
8 Remove from office
9 Three (Ital.)
11 Fencing match
17 Comrade
19 Bric-a-brac

- holder
22 Feel lousy
24 Basement
25 Hinder progress
26 Flung
28 The Grateful ___
30 El ___
31 Singer Burl
32 Binds
34 Urge payment
36 ___-fi



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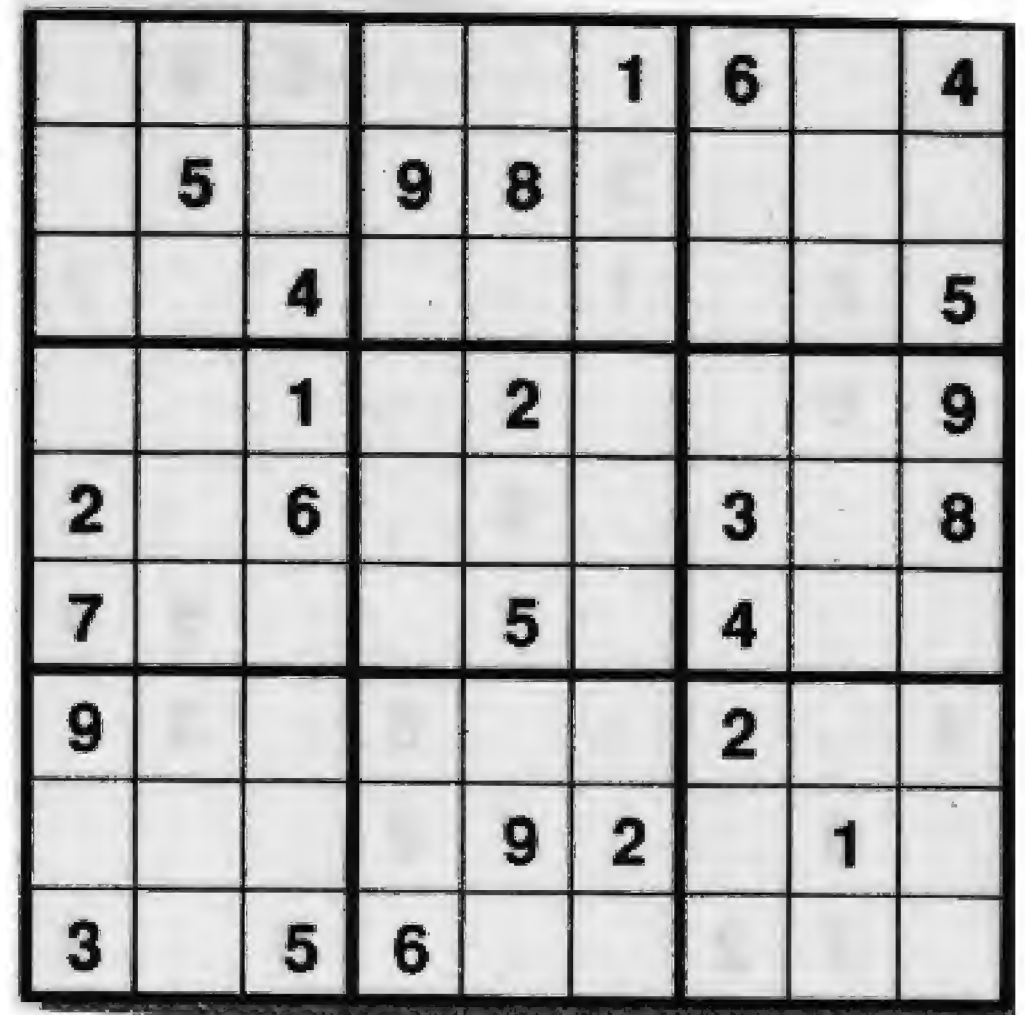
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Sudoku



SOLUTION

2	7	6	8	1	9	5	2	3
6	1	5	2	8	4	9	7	
9	8	3	5	7	6	4	1	6
1	2	7	9	5	8	6	3	2
8	5	6	2	1	9	7	2	
6	9	2	3	2	7	1	8	5
5	6	9	2	9	2	7	8	1
2	2	1	7	8	6	5	9	
7	6	9	1	5	2	2	2	9

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

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5 Burgers Aruba: Now your best breakfast bargain!



--A favorite stop for a great burger for lunch or dinner has just expanded their hours and menu to offer some of the best breakfast bargains to be found in Palm Beach. Owners Aaron and Rosie Walisever are living their dream: a home on paradise while welcoming all and

sundry to their proud undertaking, 5 Burgers Aruba. The couple's fanatical dedication to giving their customers what they really want has resulted in a unique menu from an internationally known franchise with a "5", which now includes breakfast.

"You never get a second chance to make a first impression," believes Aaron. Upon entering 5 Burgers Aruba in The Village Mall in Palm Beach, one is struck by utterly spotless surroundings and a smiling, friendly, attentive service crew. Of course, the main item on the menu is burgers-the way they were meant to be, thick and juicy, made fresh daily and 100% pure beef, the kind that made the hamburger a traditional American treat.

However, beginning at 8am, patrons can now order 2 eggs any style (omelets with 3

fillings are \$7.99) and toast for a price of only \$4.99 or All You Can Eat Pancakes for \$6.99! A new plate called the "Home Run" comes with 2 eggs, bacon or sausage, 2 pancakes, toast & home fries - for only \$9.99! Best of all - unlimited coffee or tea - that is, refillable and never ending is only \$.79! Breakfast is served from 8am until noon. Famous for their fries made from fresh potatoes, Aaron has been working for months on devising the most irresistible home fries recipe, chunky and tender with skins still on; after much testing and tasting, he got the thumbs up from his harshest critic, Rosie; so this is another treat you have to try.

A glance at their burger menu will certainly tempt you to return for lunch or dinner, to sample their famous specialty items such as the Gouda, Farmer's or Man Burger (almost 12 ounces of choice beef), and a Western

Burger with Aaron's secret-recipe crispy onion rings. All of these can be personalized with an incredible array of toppings, (mushrooms, jala-peño peppers, bacon, cheese, lettuce, tomato...whatever, the list goes on) at absolutely no extra cost.

5 Burger portions are



ENORMOUS! Aaron suggests that even their small serving of fries is enough to be shared by two. He was very amused to watch a famous French chef demonstrating the best way to make fried potatoes on a gour-

met cooking show and could only comment "He stole my recipe!"

Try them the English way-with vinegar, and you'll wonder how you ever ate fries without it. This same 5-star chef also swears by Gouda as the best topping for the ideal gourmet cheeseburger.

5 Burgers is now open early until 10-ish Sunday-Thursday; and until 3am on Friday & Saturdays.

Delivery is available to most Hotels and most beaches! Enjoy a great lunch without ever leaving the beach by calling 586-3904. However, we suggest you stop by and enjoy their authentic, heartfelt hospitality; it is not unusual for either owner to sit and chat, sharing their knowledge of the island while making sure patrons are happy with their meal.

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Clinic to be held on Aruba by FINA for synchronized swimming judges



ORANJESTAD - The World Federation of Swimming, FINA has organized a special clinic for synchronized swimming judges from around the world.

They decided to make

Aruba the venue for this event. The clinic is scheduled to last three days and is scheduled to take place from the 16th to the 18th of January. Ginny Jason-tek from the USA, who is an international expert and mem-

ber of the Technical Commission of Synchro of FINA, will be the facilitator of this clinic.

A total of 31 participants from abroad have registered to participate in the clinic. Participants are expected from Curaçao, Brazil, Argentina, Dominican Republic, Canada and the USA. All Aruban judges are also participating.

The Subsidy Commission of Lotto pa Deporte is very pleased to support our local judges in order for them to receive a higher grade of certification.

This will definitely benefit our athletes and their sport. The Subsidy Commission and Lotto pa Deporte wishes our judges much success.

NBA: Spurs lose Green for four weeks with broken finger

SAN ANTONIO (AFP) - San Antonio Spurs guard Danny Green has broken a left index finger and is expected to miss the next four weeks of the NBA season, the team announced Monday.

Green's injury, which came in the first half of San Antonio's 104-86 home victory

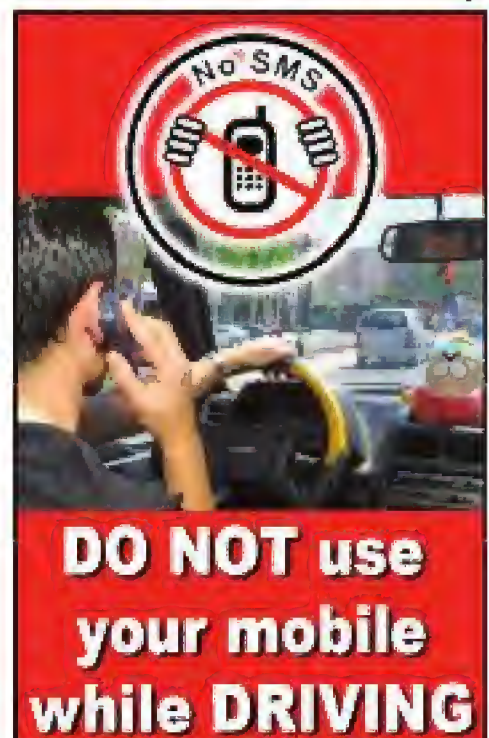
over Minnesota on Sunday, is the latest in a series of mishaps over the past 10 days for the Western Conference leaders.

The Spurs are without Brazilian center Tiago Splitter for another two to four weeks after he suffered a right shoulder injury earlier this month and have been playing without Argentine guard Manu Ginobili the past two games due to a tight left hamstring.

Despite the setbacks, the Spurs are 29-8 and on a four-game win streak. San Antonio owns the second-best record in the NBA after Indiana (29-7) and leads Houston by 5 1/2 games in the Southwest division.



Green, 26, has averaged 7.4 points, 3.0 rebounds and 1.3 assists over 37 games, 28 as a starter, for the Spurs this season.



BRIEFS:



MILAN (AFP) - Inter Milan's Argentinian forward Diego Alberto Milito (R) vies for the ball against Chievo Verona's goalkeeper Christian Puggioni during the Italian Serie A football match between Inter Milan and Chievo Verona on Monday at Milan's San Siro stadium. Match ended in a 1-1 draw.



MONACO (AFP) - (From L) Finland driver Mikko Hirvonen's Ford Fiesta R, British driver Kris Meeke's Citroen DS3, French Sebastien Ogier's Volkswagen Polo R, and Belgium Thierry Neuville's Hyundai i20 are presented during the opening ceremony of the 82nd Monte-Carlo Rally, the opening race of the 2014 World Rally Championship, yesterday in Monaco.



COLORADO SPRINGS (AFP) - Three-time Olympic champions Tamika Catchings, Diana Taurasi and Sue Bird were among 33 players named Monday to the US women's basketball talent pool from which world and Olympic teams are chosen. The veteran trio were joined by double gold medalists and fellow Women's NBA stars Candace Parker, Sylvia Fowles and Seimone Augustus. The Americans will defend their world crown later this year in Turkey and Olympic gold in 2016 at Rio de Janeiro. US women have won five of the past seven world titles, a run that began in 1986 and was interrupted only by Brazil in 1994 and Australia in 2006. The Americans have gone 80-1 since 1996 in international competitions, taking Olympic gold in 1996, 2000, 2004, 2008 and 2012 plus world titles in 1998, 2002 and 2010.

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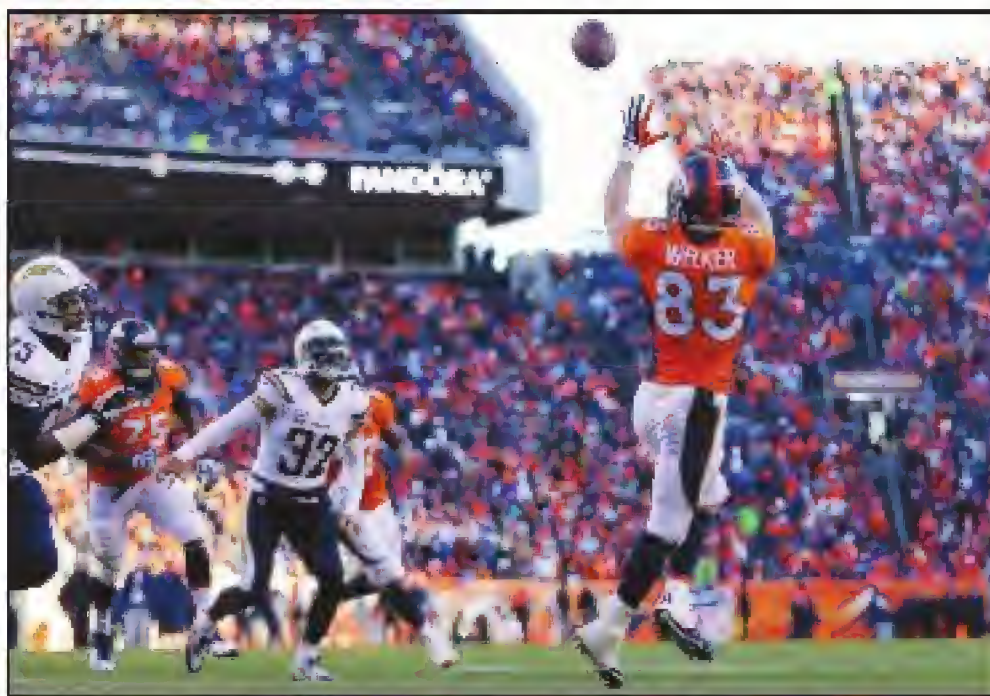
NFL: Broncos, move one win away from Super Bowl

DENVER (AFP) - Peyton Manning powered the Denver Broncos to within one victory of the Super Bowl and San Francisco advanced as well by beating Carolina in Sunday's National Football League playoff games.

Manning threw two touchdown passes to lead Denver over visiting San Diego 24-17 while Colin Kaepernick ran for one touchdown and threw for another to lift the 49ers over host Carolina 23-10.

Denver will host New England and San Francisco will visit Seattle in next Sunday's playoff semi-finals with those winners to meet in Super Bowl 48 on February 2 at suburban New York.

Manning, who set new NFL pass yardage and touchdown



Wes Welker hauls in a 3-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Peyton Manning in the second quarter that helped the Broncos to a 14-0 lead.

toss records this season leading the top-scoring offensive unit in league history, will have a showdown against New England rival Tom Brady, whose records he broke, in a battle of star quarterbacks for the American Conference crown.

"It's the Broncos versus the Patriots," Manning said. "Tom and I have played against each other a lot but when you get to the conference championship it's about two good teams getting there."

The Patriots defeated Denver 34-31 in overtime in a regular-season matchup November 25 at New England. The Broncos led 24-0 at half-time before three-time Super Bowl winner Brady produced the greatest comeback of his NFL career.

Brady is 10-4 in games against Manning with a 2-1 playoffs edge. Each time the winner went on to win the Super Bowl, Manning taking the most recent such meeting in 2007 on the way to a title with Indianapolis.

But first the Broncos, who lost in this round last year to eventual Super Bowl winner Baltimore, had to get past a San Diego squad that upset them a month ago at home.

Meanwhile, Broncos cornerback Chris Harris will miss the remainder of the National Football League playoffs with a torn left knee ligament, Broncos coach John Fox said.

Harris suffered the injury in the third quarter of Sunday's 24-17 home playoff.

An MRI exam Monday revealed the extent of the injury to the 24-year-old defensive back, who made 65 tackles, broke up 13 pass attempts and intercepted three throws this season.

Baseball: Rodriguez files lawsuit to halt ban: report

NEW YORK (AFP) - Embattled New York Yankees third baseman Alex Rodriguez filed a lawsuit against Major League Baseball and its players union Monday in a bid to overturn a 162-game doping ban, the New York Daily News reported.

The filing in US District Court in Manhattan claims arbitrator Fredric Horowitz showed partiality in only trimming what had been a 211-game ban to 162 games plus playoffs, suspending the sport's highest-paid player for the entire 2014 season, the newspaper reported.

The ban is still the longest doping-related suspension in major league history, longer than the 12 players who admitted wrongdoing in the Biogenesis doping scandal because Major League Baseball said Rodriguez took steps to impede the investigation into his use of banned substances.

Rodriguez also says the Major League Baseball Players Association did not fairly represent him in the arbitration process, which both the union and the league say is the final

word on the matter based on the union agreement with club owners.

In November, Rodriguez stormed out of an arbitration session, unhappy that Major League Baseball commissioner Bud Selig did not have to appear to support the league's investigation findings and procedures, including evidence and testimony from Biogenesis director Anthony Bosch, whose credibility Rodriguez has challenged.

Earlier Monday, a federal judge ruled that Rodriguez could not file the lawsuit challenging the ruling by Horowitz and keep portions of the ruling private.

Horowitz's ruling is believed to touch upon evidence that could detail years of doping by Rodriguez.

The filing comes less than 24 hours after the chief witness against Rodriguez, Bosch, was interviewed by CBS News for the program "60 Minutes."

Bosch said Rodriguez used multiple banned performance-enhancing drugs that Bosch provided him.

FIFA 2013 award winners

Winners at 2013 FIFA Ballon d'Or awards on Monday in Zurich:

Ballon D'Or: Cristiano Ronaldo (Portugal)

Honorary Ballon D'Or: Pele (Brazil)

Woman player of the year: Nadine Angerer (Germany)

Men's team coach of the year: Jupp Heynckes (Bayern Munich/Germany)

Women's team coach of the year: Silvia Neid (German national team)

Puskas prize for goal of the year: Zlatan Ibrahimovic (Sweden) for his goal against England in a friendly

President's prize: Jacques Rogge (Belgium/former International Olympic Committee president)

'Fair Play': Afghan Football Federation

FIFPro World XI: Manuel Neuer - Daniel Alves, Sergio Ramos, Thiago Silva, Philip Lahm - Andres Iniesta, Xavi Hernandez, Franck Ribery - Cristiano Ronaldo, Zlatan Ibrahimovic, Lionel Messi.

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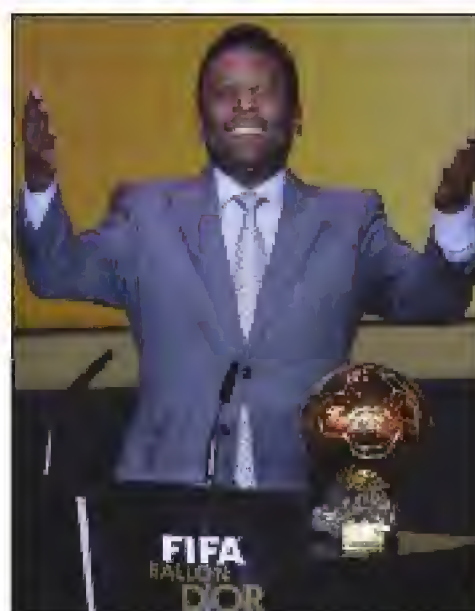
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Football: Pele given honorary Ballon d'Or



ZURICH (AFP) - Brazilian great Pele was finally awarded a Ballon d'Or in Zurich on Monday, despite retiring in 1977, co-organisers France Football announced.

When France Football created the Ballon d'Or in 1956 it was for the best player playing in Europe and Pele never played club football in the 'old continent'.

By the time FIFA inaugurated the world footballer of the year award in 1991, Pele had long since retired.

But Monday he was given an honorary Ballon d'Or to rectify a historic wrong.

In 2010 the Ballon d'Or and FIFA's world footballer of the year awards, which had run separately for 19 years, were amalgamated to create the FIFA Ballon d'Or for the best player in the world.

Pele had revealed the news himself to Brazilian press on Sunday, saying: "I won three World Cups but during a period when the Ballon d'Or didn't exist (for non-European based players)."

"But FIFA has decided to give me one."

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Cristiano Ronaldo wins 2013 Ballon d'Or

ZURICH (AFP) - Cristiano Ronaldo ended the four-year dominance of Lionel Messi when he was awarded the 2013 FIFA Ballon d'Or in Zurich on Monday.

The tearful 28-year-old Real Madrid and Portugal star, who won the award in 2008, had been the overwhelming favourite to pip Barcelona and Argentina wonder Messi, winner the previous four years, and France's Franck Ribery, who claimed the treble with Bayern Munich in 2013.

Ronaldo won with 27.99%



of the votes ahead of Messi (24.72%) while Ribery was third (23.36%) according to France Football, co-organis-

ers of the award with FIFA.

"There are no words to describe how I feel," said Ronaldo. I'm delighted, "Those who know me know how many sacrifices I made to win this reward."

Ronaldo, who was widely expected to win after news spread on social media earlier in the day that seven members of his family were joining him in Zurich and his club Real were transmitting the award ceremony live on their official television channel in a change to the programmed schedule, broke down in tears on stage

during his victory speech.

Ribery, who won the Champions League, Bundesliga and German Cup with Bayern last season, before adding the European Super-cup and Club World Cup before the turn of the year, had been the early front-runner.

But a controversial two-week extension to the voting deadline for international coaches, captains and media meant those casting their ballots could take into consideration Ronaldo's remarkable hat-trick to beat Sweden in the

World Cup play-offs in November.

That was widely believed to have been enough to tip the scales in his favour.

However, with 66 goals in his 56 matches this year -- more than Messi and Ribery's combined 65 -- no-one could deny Ronaldo was a worthy winner.

It is the second time he has picked up the award and comes in a season in which he won nothing with either club or country, an unusual situation for a Ballon d'Or winner.